



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**For Immediate Release:**

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**EVENT: Sentencing**

**Defendant: Dorian Merriewether**

**FORMER WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY SENTENCED**

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A former Wayne County Sheriff's Deputy, Dorian Merriewether, 36 of Farmington Hills, Michigan was sentenced today to 30 months probation with the first 8 months to be served under home confinement, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Andrew G. Arena, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Wayne County Sheriff Warren C. Evans, whose agency played a central collaborative role in the investigation.

Merriewether was sentenced today before United States District Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff in Port Huron, Michigan.

Merriewether pleaded guilty in September of this year on charges of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and marijuana. The information presented to the court at the time of the plea established that between 2004 and August 2005, Merriewether used his position as a Wayne County Sheriff's Deputy to transport and distribute cocaine and marijuana to individuals

detained in the Wayne County Jail.

“When the state acts as a jailer, its first duty is the secure and safe detention of those in custody. A deputy sheriff who supplies illegal drugs to prisoners threatens the safety of inmates, guards, and even citizens who may be visitors. I am very pleased that the FBI and the Wayne County Sheriff’s Office did all they could to bring this defendant to justice.”

SAC Arena said, “Police corruption matters are a priority of the FBI and we will continue to aggressively investigate those cases where public officials have betrayed the trust of the citizens which they have the responsibility to protect.”

Wayne County Sheriff Warren C. Evans said, "This type of activity will not be tolerated in this department. We will continue to actively and aggressively ferret out illegal activity wherever it exists."

The case was investigated by special agents of the FBI as well as the internal affairs department of the Wayne County Sheriff’s Office.